

trepine or drill in certain cases of operation on the mastoid, p. 477; the use of the Stacke protector, p. 481.

Certain portions of the book are to be unreservedly commended; such as the description of the causation of the ill-effects constitutionally of mouth breathing, pp. 204-5; the rules for the method of using the nasal douche; the emphasis laid upon the necessity for frequent attention, even daily, by the surgeon in cases of chronic middle-ear suppuration, p. 404.

HENRY A. ALDERTON.

THE PRACTICE OF GYNÆCOLOGY BY EMINENT AUTHORITIES.

Edited by J. WESLEY BOVÉE, M.D., Professor of Gynæcology in George Washington University, Washington, D. C. Octavo, 838 pages. Philadelphia and New York: Lea Brothers & Co., Publishers. 1906.

This work is the first of three companion volumes dealing respectively with Gynæcology, Obstetrics and Pediatrics, and is offered to the profession as a practical treatise on the diseases of the generative organs of women and on those of the neighboring organs, the urinary system and rectum. The work has been written by seven contributors.

J. Wesley Bovée has written the chapters on the Developmental Anomalies of the Female Generative Organs, Sterility, Diseases of the Rectum, Anus and the Urinary Tract; J. Riddle Goffe, Menstruation, Displacements of the Uterus, The Vaginal Method of Operating, and the After Treatment and Complications of Abdominal Operations; G. Brown Miller, Uterine Conditions; George H. Noble, Fistulæ, Lacerations of the Perineum and Diseases of the Vulva and Vagina; Benjamin R. Schanck, Diseases of the Tubes and Ovaries exclusive of Infections and Tubal Pregnancy; Thomas J. Watkins, Infections of the Tubes and Ovaries; X. O. Werder, The Examination of Pelvic Contents, The Technique of Abdominal Operations and Extrauterine Pregnancy.

Pathology and bacteriology have been chosen as the chief guides in the classifications of diseases. The classification of endometritis by Miller on this basis seems most rational. He regards only those cases which show actual inflammation as endometritis and does not apply the term loosely to the hypertro-

phies and other changes in the endometrium due to misplacements, pelvic tumors, etc. As bacteria are the cause of uterine inflammation in the vast majority of the instances, he considers endometritis and metritis as some stage of infection, either acute or chronic. He therefore classifies them according to the various agents infecting the genital tract: (1) gonorrhoeal, (2) those conditions caused by pyogenic or saprophytic bacteria (essentially a wound infection), and (3) tuberculosis.

The feature which particularly recommends the book is that the latest ideas in each branch of the subject are presented as exhaustively as the scope of the work permits by one especially interested in that branch.

JOHN A. SAMPSON.

A TREATISE ON SURGERY. By GEORGE RYERSON FOWLER, M.D., Brooklyn, New York City, Examiner in Surgery, Board of Medical Examiners of the Regents of the University of the State of New York, etc. 2 vols., royal 8vo. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1906.

There are two points of view from which we may regard a new treatise on surgery. It is the record and exposition of the learning of the author and his ability as a teacher, but it is also a history of his own achievements in his chosen work and a record of what he himself has done to further the science and art of surgery.

The author of this treatise has finished his work. He has laid down pen and scalpel and sleeps in his final repose under the greensward on the edge of the busy city whose people he served so well. He never saw a printed copy of his book. Death overtook him almost at the desk, as his hand wrote the finishing lines of his last work, and seizing his pen wrote for him on the clear record of his life, "Finis." And so he slept.

Dr. Fowler's habit of thought, his incessant and superabundant energy which drove him to work, as Jehu drove, furiously, unfitted him for the cloistered recesses of the laboratory and the quiet routine of research work. His nature kept him on the firing line, in immediate conflict with the forces of disease, so he sought out for his life task the most exacting and exhausting work of the profession, the practice of surgery. When he was not actually at work over the operating-table, he was at his desk, and